

# Historic Preservation Commission (2012-2013) Sedona's Most Endangered Places

# Preservation Success: Benny Gonzales Sedona Library

The Sedona Library, one of the few buildings in northern Arizona designed by Architect Benny Gonzales, and previously listed in the Historic Preservation Most Endangered Places list, is now being restored and renovated for commercial use.

### George Jordan Packing Shed/Sedona Art Barn, ca. 1939

Historical significance: Originally, fruit from the local orchards of George Jordan and others was processed for sale in this rustic, pine clapboard structure. In 1958, a group of artists and entrepreneurs turned the building into an art center named Canyon Kiva, which became the



Sedona Art Center in 1961. The Art Barn, which has been altered and expanded, continues to be used as a gallery, studio and community gathering place.

*Urgency:* The build is in pressing need for repair. (Currently the owners are working to do this.)

**Potential solutions:** Owners pursue Local Historic Landmark designation to assure the building maintains its historic integrity.

## Elmer and Liz Purtymun House, ca. 1924

Historical significance: The Purtymun clan was the fourth pioneer family to arrive in Oak Creek Canyon and settle permanently; descendants still live in the area. This house is a fine example of a vernacular Sedona house built of red rock in the 1920s. It is potentially eligible for the National Register because 1) type of construction, 2) significant contribution to broad patterns of Sedona's history.



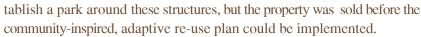
*Urgency:* This house is on land that could be redeveloped for more lucrative uses.

Potential solutions: A) Owners pursue protection through Local Historic Landmark designation. B) Incorporate into a new development.

## Forest Service Ranger Station and Residence, ca. 1917 and 1934



*Historical significance:* These highly visible landmarks – a former ranger's house and wood barn – are already listed on the National Register of Historic Places as outstanding examples of early 20th-century vernacular architecture. Ranger Jess Bushell built the wood-frame house with a screened porch within sight of the barn. The Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the long barn for livestock, tack and a haymow, from government-issued drawings. In 2007, the City of Sedona approved a plan to es-



*Urgency:* The current owner is a developer who may choose not to retain and reuse these vacant buildings, despite their National Register standing. Potential solutions: A) Develop as a community park. B) Incorporate into a new development.

## Madole-Rigby House, ca. 1948



Historical significance: This house was built for Elizabeth and Douglas Rigby, long-time Sedona residents, authors and photographers. The architect, Howard Madole, and his family built the home's adobe bricks by hand from earth on site. Madole (b. 1923) was the first architect in Sedona to use

modern design and, in later houses, modern building materials. Considered the oldest remaining adobe house in Sedona, it may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, as it represents the work of a master architect and is associated with prominent citizens.

*Urgency:* The house sits in the center of an otherwise vacant, six acre parcel, which could support a large project, and is adjacent to other land available for dense redevelopment.

**Potential solutions:** A) Incorporate into a new development using the Department of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation/Reuse. B) Owners pursue protection through Local Historic Landmark designation.

# The City of Sedona's Most Endangered Places

#### Purpose

"Sedona's Most Endangered Places" list is intended to bring attention to endangered historic resources.

#### Criteria for Inclusion on the List

- 1. Significance
- 2. Urgency
- 3. Potential Solutions

#### Significance

Significance is the architectural, artistic, and/or historic importance of a site within its cultural, social, or geographical context.

#### Urgency

Urgency is the need for immediate action to stop or reverse serious threats. These might be any stage of physical deterioration or unfavorable conditions:

- \* A disaster has occurred such as a natural or intentional destruction.
- \* A disaster is imminent, either because of lack of preservation or the planned introduction of harmful factors such as development.
- \* A pattern of destruction such as neglect, erosion, or exposure to the elements, will lead to loss if not reversed.
- \* Long-range impacts exist that can be averted by proper planning or intervention.

#### **Potential Solutions**

Potential solutions are evaluated according to the likelihood that the threats to the site can be removed. These solutions can either lessen or eliminate the threat.

#### The Selection Process

The Sedona Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) determines what properties will be included on this list and encourages recommendations from the public. The HPC annually reviews all known historic properties and considers their condition, known or presumed threats, and potential solutions for preservation.

# Historic Preservation Commission

The mission of the Historic Preservation Commission is "to identify and preserve Sedona's historic places, and foster civic pride in the accomplishments of the past."

In order to fulfill this mission HPC has the charge of creating "Sedona's Most Endangered Places" list, and among other duties, the responsibility of surveying properties, nominating them for landmark status, and monitoring the condition of historic properties.

The Historic Preservation Commission welcomes the input from the public. Without your help we may miss important pieces of our past.

For more information please call:

City of Sedona Community Development Department

Phone 928-203-5035

Or visit the city website: www.sedonaaz.gov

City of Sedona Community Development Dept. 102 Roadrunner Road Sedona, Arizona 86336 Email: clovely@sedonaaz.gov





Historic Preservation Commission Sedona's Most Endangered Places

2012-2013



The Elmer & Lizzie Purtymun House ca, 1924

USFS Ranger Station Barn ca. 1937





USFS Ranger Station Rangers House ca. 1917

Madole-Rigby House ca. 1948





George Jordan Packing Shed/ Sedona Art Barn Ca. 1939